



Whatcom County Behavioral Health

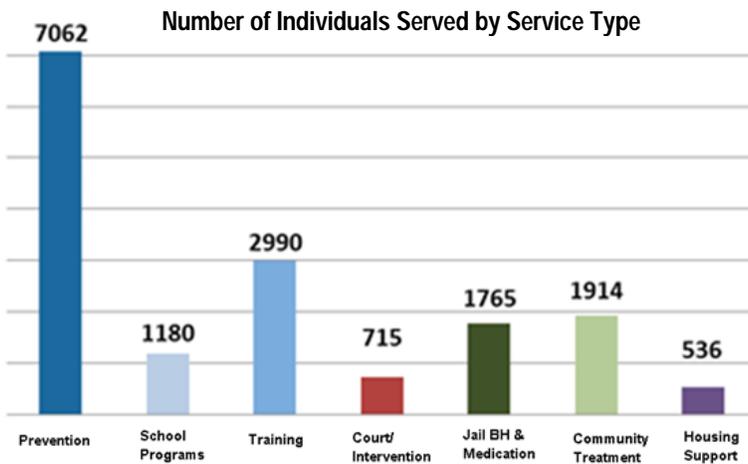
Sales Tax Fund Annual Report 2019

Manager's Comments:

The Behavioral Health Program Fund, supported by a local sales tax, continues to provide positive investments in the lives of our residents. This past year we were successful in expanding some important programs in our community. The GRACE program was launched in 2018 and has now reached its current capacity, serving 80 individuals at any given time. GRACE stands for Ground-level Response and Coordinated Engagement," and serves residents who frequently use crisis services, but have not experienced long term stability because they don't receive the benefit of coordinated care. The GRACE team have joined with law enforcement and emergency medical personnel to engage these individuals in supportive services. These services have reduced 911 calls and improved health and mental wellness for GRACE members. Arrests and incarceration have also been reduced as a result of this program and its collaboration with a multitude of community partners in the delivery of effective treatment and support. We are proud that this home-grown program has delivered such positive outcomes and appreciate our partnership with SeaMar Behavioral Health in the delivery of these services. The City of Bellingham and PeaceHealth have shared in the financial support of the GRACE Program.

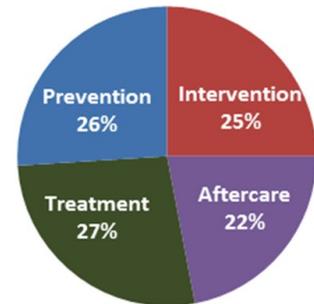
We continue to enhance our services to youth and their families through programs with our seven school districts. Healthy Youth Survey data demonstrates that these collaborative services make a positive difference in reducing academic and behavioral health concerns while promoting improved health and wellness.

As we move forward, we are aware that this fund has maximized its ability to add more programs. Indeed, as the COVID-19 pandemic challenges our financial economy, our fund will experience reduced revenues. We will need to reevaluate all programming supported by this fund and commit to ensuring that the services it supports produce the expected outcomes and remain a priority for our community.



Service Expenditures for 2019

Percentage by Service Area



Total \$5,862,605

(see back for budget details)

VISION AND GOALS

Develop a comprehensive infrastructure of behavioral health care that will:

Provide effective recovery-oriented services that mitigate the need for individuals to default to utilization of the emergency room, hospital beds and the county jail.

Provide access and availability for intervention and treatment services to individuals who have limited access.

Promote the provision of services in natural environments in order to reduce the incidence and severity of substance use and mental health disorders.

Provide interventions that divert individuals with mental health and substance use disorders from the criminal justice system to more appropriate options of care.

Support young children and families with early interventions and behavioral health promotion.

2019 Accomplishments

- Ensured that Ground-level Response and Coordinated Engagement (GRACE) reached full capacity.
- Began construction of the new Crisis Stabilization Center facility.
- Braided BH Sales Tax with a Drug Free Communities grant resulting in \$1.25M in leveraged funds over 5 years.
- Provided support to individuals who are homeless and suffering from mental illness and substance use disorders.
- Initiated partnership between community partners for the construction and development of a Recovery House.

Whatcom County Behavioral Health Program

Year Ending December 31, 2019 Revenue Collected Expenditures

Revenue

Sales Tax Collected	\$5,033,900
Interest Earned	\$116,055
Other	\$566,735
Total Revenue	\$5,716,690

Expenditures

Prevention	\$341,468
Behavioral Health School Programs	\$908,253
Education, Training and Consultation	\$21,750
Court & Other Intervention Services	\$1,218,,72
Jail Behavioral Health Services & Re-Entry Services	\$720,418
Community Treatment	\$578,631
Housing Support Services	\$1,042,899
Program Services Total	\$4,832,191
Direct Program Support	\$117,283
Administrative Costs	\$913,131
Total Expenditures	\$5,862,605

PITA Continuum

The PITA model continues to serve as the framework for creating a comprehensive foundation for service delivery.

